Development of Multi-Crop Agriculture

4639. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to adopt new strategy to develop multi-crop agriculture in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial assistance provided to Assam therefor during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). There is no specific scheme on development of multi-crop agriculture in Assam. However, emphasis is being given to increase cropping intensity in different States with the introduction of short duration crop varieties and adoption of locally developed production technology by State Agriculture University, Jorhat and its Stations.

(c) No specific financial assistance has been provided to develop multi-crop agriculture in Assam.

Gold and Uranium Deposits in Assam

4640. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any deposits of gold and uranium in Kerbi Anglong and North Eastern Hills of Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise alongwith their quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir. As per the Indian Minerals Year Book 1991, there are no known reserves of gold and uranium in Kerbi Anglong and North Eastern Hills of Assam.

(b) Does not arise.

Cost of Production of Coal

4641. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of production of Coal in various collieries in the country, colliery-wise;

(b) whether the cost of production is high in comparison to the other countries; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to reduce it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) According to information furnished by Coal India Ltd. (CIL) the subsidiary-wise cost of production of coal for the year 1990-91 was as follows:-

Company	*Rs./tonne*
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	498.52
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	397.67
Central Coalfields Ltd.	243.05
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	159.58
Western Coalfields Ltd.	310.82
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	191.22
North Eastern Coalfields	705.00
Overall CIL	277.18

The cost of production of SCCL* coal for 1990-91 was Rs. 401.05 per tonne.

*Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.